

PEACE NEWS

The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union serving all who are working for Peace

No. 37

London: February 27, 1937

2d.

MAKING OTHERS LESS SECURE

"TALKING BEHIND THE GUNS"

Dominion Statesman and Peace

A "PLAYED OUT" METHOD

Special to PEACE NEWS

THE remarkable phrase quoted above was used by Mr. Walter Nash, Finance Minister of the New Zealand Government, at a luncheon under the auspices of the British Commonwealth Peace Federation at the House of Commons last week.

The function was attended by forty members of the Peers and Commons drawn from all parties and was in honour of Mr. Nash and Mr. W. Jordan, the High Commissioner.

Mr. Nash started his speech by strongly protesting against the habit of mind which he described as talking from behind the guns. The method of the gun was altogether played out in any mental or moral process necessary to get the world out of its present troubles—and, he added, there could be no permanence in any amelioration based on other than moral grounds.

AN EXAMPLE

The great gift the British Empire could confer in the struggle for peace was the simple fact that though New Zealand and Australia, for example, could hold different views on various matters, no one ever suggested, no one even dared to think or wanted to think of the arbitrament of arms.

Out of this sane attitude of friendly cooperation which two neighbouring nations thus adopted toward one another, the real business of positive world cooperation became possible.

Mr. Nash then went on to describe how New Zealand was reorganizing the supply of its products so that the people producing them might be guaranteed a decent subsistence. At the same time, by friendly cooperation with other parts of the British Empire, it was arranging for the export of its goods at a price which it was fair for the consumer to pay.

Their efforts, said Mr. Nash, were clearly succeeding, as they were able to raise loans in the suspicious money markets of the world at terms quite as favourable as those obtained by any preceding New Zealand Government.

"Necessary Consequence" of Government's Arms Plan

THE guns of one nation always have the effect of making less secure all, or some, of the other nations. . . Undoubtedly this armament race, begun by the three great democracies of England, France, and the United States, will have, as a necessary consequence, an adequate military reply from all the other great nations which have no illusions as to its significance.

"And it will be responsible for a fresh rift in world relations."

No, this is not the comment of our Parliamentary Correspondent on the dangers of the Government's policy of "rearmament," but the judgment of Signor Gayda (Mussolini's "mouthpiece") in an article in Sunday's *Voce d'Italia* entitled "Not We but the Others," in which criticism of the British Government's programme was strongly expressed.

£1,500,000,000 for rearmament means WAR

TURN up at Hyde Park at 3 p.m. tomorrow (Sunday)—wet or fine—to protest against the Government's rearmament policy.

"Dick" Sheppard will lead a representative platform—full particulars on back page.

PARLIAMENT DEBATES "DEFENCE" LOAN

THE amazing statement that if the Government had not borrowed before "it was not because they objected to borrowing in principle, but because they could not find any work economically sound in character and suitable for borrowing," was made by Mr. Chamberlain during the debate on the "defence" loan last week.

Astounding as it may appear, the Government seemed to believe that it was a sounder economic policy to borrow money for arms than to borrow for schemes for improving the people's lot.

Yet Mr. Chamberlain made the bold assertion that his plans were not a "war measure." He said also that the amount of £1,500,000,000 was not a fixed figure but might be decreased or increased according to circumstances.

To raise the money by taxation would cripple our resources and throw back the present industrial progress. Moreover, only one quarter of the total expenditure would be raised by loan, and that was not an excessive proportion.

The complaint that the White Paper gave no hint of the policy

(Continued in column 3, page 11)

A TALE OF TWO VOICES

Playing their Part

From a Correspondent

NO doubt you will also find it a consolation to think that in the midst of this troubled world, and in spite of the difficulties in business, we can all meet here and say that we work together for pacific interchanges only." So said M. Fort, Paris representative of Messrs. Ransome and Marles Bearing Co. Ltd., at the firm's staff dinner at Newark. In a later speech during the evening Mr. J. A. Ross (works manager) referred to recent factory extensions, and said that the directors had that day decided to go ahead with a still larger extension, which they considered "not only a duty to the company, but a duty to the country."

"We have gone in for a large rearmament programme," he said, "and it is up to the firms in the country to provide the armaments, and taking the long view we have decided to go ahead in order to be fully capable of playing our part in the programme.

"It will not only be of benefit to the country—but to the shareholders as well," added Mr. Ross.

Still a Pitfall for Pacifists

HOW pitifully men still insist on being bamboozled into war by the ancient theory that force can cast out force is shown in the following message, so terribly reminiscent of 1914, from our Special Correspondent in Castellon-de-la-Plana:

I have just had a long talk with a German member of the international contingent, a patient in the local hospital, who has undergone long imprisonment and persecution in his own country. He too disapproves of war.

"But this war is different from all other wars (he argues). Other wars, it is true, have settled nothing, but this war will settle fascism for all time."

In my last message I mentioned a "ray," or troop, of "pioneers," with whom I have made friends. Today I had an opportunity of talking with some of the older boys who told me that, in spite of one of their "laws," they are not opposed to religion; that, on the contrary,

if Christ's teachings were followed, all that the revolution stands for would be achieved without bloodshed.

This picture, sent by our special correspondent, shows a sewing class in progress at a refugee colony at Nules, near Castellon-de-la-Plana.

Through its recent appeal Newark Peace Society raised £2 16s. 6d. for medical aid for Spain. It has also sent a first consignment of 48 tins of condensed milk to the second youth food-ship.



Spain

CATHOLIC PEACE APPEAL

Attitude of Portugal

AN appeal has been launched on the Continent by a group of leading French Catholic laymen, supported by signatories in this country,

not only to the League of Nations but to the governments, to every man of heart, charging them in the name of Christ to do everything in their power to encourage all efforts at mediation and to put an end to one of the most horrible calamities that the history of Europe has known.

The governments' efforts to curtail the war by a policy of non-intervention seem mainly to have been obstructed by Portugal's attitude. A reliable report that has reached the headquarters of the War Resisters' International in England from their representative in Portugal states:

"While officially the Portuguese Government is acting in cooperation with the London Non-Intervention Committee, actually every agreement is being broken. Every day the Spanish fascists receive help from Portugal, not only in money, but also in materials."

"The Portugal-Spain frontier is quite open to the Spanish fascists, who freely enter the country, and are, in some cases, given full rights there, while many Portuguese are watched and forbidden free speech."

Nevertheless, it was announced on Monday that agreement had been reached by the British and Portuguese Governments on arrangements under which British observers would supervise the working of the Non-Intervention agreement in Portuguese territory.

EXPLAINING THEIR POINTS OF VIEW

Evidence of increasing interest in pacifism has been indicated lately by the number of debates and discussions on pacifism and collective "security" which have been arranged by branches of the League of Nations Union and other organizations.

At Wellingborough for example Mr. John P. Fletcher, who suffered imprisonment as a conscientious objector during the War, debated the subject with Mr. F. E. Pearson, county secretary of the L.N.U.

"By pacifism," said Mr. Fletcher, "is meant the belief that by persuasion you can live best in the world." Mr. Pearson contended that collective "security" was not the chief point of the League, which, he said, was not founded on force but on justice.

At a joint meeting of the Peace Pledge Union and the L.N.U. held in Middlesbrough last week there took place a similar discussion on what one newspaper called "the two ways to peace—peace at all costs, or peace by collective security." The Rev. R. Newsam spoke for the pacifists and Mr. J. M. Robertson represented the L.N.U.

REFLECTIONS AND COMMENTS

by
LORD PONSONBY

TWO or three thoughtful, intelligent, and high minded young men on being asked to sign our pledge card recently expressed their hesitation in some such words as these:

"We realize the futility, waste, and evil of war, we don't want to participate or help in it. We are ready now to say that we won't fight."

"But we are only too conscious of the careful staging set for a war and the mass emotion created by it. We therefore doubt our ability or courage to stand out against the community in actual wartime. Can we then honestly sign your pledge card?"

This is a striking instance of admirable and conscientious sincerity. I remember a constituent of mine in Scotland in 1915 who was an out-and-out pacifist.

I met him one day in the street in uniform. I expressed surprise; had he altered his view?

"No," he replied; "I simply hadn't the courage."

In the face of hysterical mass "patriotism" the growing, engineered hatred of the wicked enemy, the purposely exaggerated false praise of the soldier, the warming association of comradeship in the face of danger, the press, public opinion, the bugle, martial music; and considering the alternative of isolation as a pariah, an outcast, a prisoner heaped with abuse and contempt, was this to be wondered at?

★ ★

SO what is the reply to the honest doubts of the young men I have mentioned?

I would put it this way, fully realizing, however, that one who is in the security of old age may not strike them as the best adviser.

By signing now they will at any rate be strengthening themselves for the test if and when the time comes. **D**ecision in the present is the best and indeed the only safeguard against possible temptation in the future.

To be too much daunted by possible dangers in an uncertain future may cramp a man from embarking on any enterprise.

But a further important consideration is this. The Peace Pledge Union, by collecting pledged refusals to participate in war is not merely thinking of how objectors will behave and what objectors will do when war is declared. That is indeed subsidiary.

The main object of the Union is to endeavour by this method to prevent war from coming at all.

Every individual who signs now is therefore helping in this object. Every individual who signs now is assisting to postpone if not to prevent the testing time coming for him.

If the fatal day does come some signatories may drop out and in any case the work of the Union will have

to be conducted on different lines and signature. As many of us as are they will have to face new dangers. united together by this bond can feel But now we are free, if we can get the warming solidarity of a brotherhood. Already we are far too numerous for the prisons of the country ward off the evil day.

★ ★

A GOVERNMENT with its Ministers and Ambassadors knows that in modern warfare nothing would be more dangerous than to embark on war when they are conscious that there is a divided nation behind them.

In many periods of so-called peace there have been far graver disputes between governments than those which have resulted in war.

They have not led to war because the government has been aware that the nation either from war-weariness (it being too short a time since a previous war), or for political reasons, is divided. So in its diplomatic negotiation it has not had the war card in its hand and consequently it has negotiated successfully without it.

Now our object is to prevent it from feeling confident that it can play the war card. We want to show it that the nation is, and will continue to be, divided, not on this or that war, but, on all war. As our numbers swell this becomes more and more apparent.

Every individual signature mounts up the total. Amidst the frenzy about expenditure on increased armaments and the militarization of the nation there will be an organized body of sane people who will keep their heads and act as a solid buffer against hysteria and madness.

★ ★

BUT I will say, if I may, to these young men that their conscientiously expressed doubt is of the greatest service as a warning against the snare of the opposite extreme—namely the man who signs at once thoughtlessly and without taking any account of the possible costs.

There will always be some of these, and a few of them may let us down when the test comes with the unexpected and insidious allurements with which it will be surrounded. They may be proof against the recruiting serjeant, the military band, and the brass buttons which they can visualize well enough now.

But the quiet advice of the respected uncle, the persuasive argument of the beloved friend, the lofty admonitions of the local parson, the threat of the sack from their boss or the possibility of a family rupture cannot be so clearly foreseen; and the atmosphere thus created may be intolerable.

However, let them prove they can stand their ground and honour their

As Aldous Huxley has warned us, we must not be deluded even now by the words and phrases and metaphors used by those in authority to disguise the grim reality of what must be expected if war breaks out between nations.

They are expressions used of heroic single combats of the past or of the strategy of professional armies. All that is past and done with.

We have all learned "Lars Porseuna of Clusium by the nine gods he swore," we were all taught about the battles of Hastings, Crécy, Agincourt, Blenheim, Waterloo, Inkerman, the relief of Mafeking, and the battle of the Marne. Like little Caspar we have repeated "It was a glorious victory" though we are still not very sure what it was all about.

At any rate we know that war has now been completely transformed and no memory or experience of the past counts for anything.

We shall recognize no glory at all when the bombardment from the sky brings dwellings and churches and monuments shattering to the ground on the piled corpses of men, women, and children.

Arthur Ponsonby

AND STILL IT GOES ON!

THE wars of civilized nations make very slow changes in the system of empire.

The publick perceives scarcely any alteration, but an increase of debt; and the few individuals who are benefited are not supposed to have the dearest right to their advantages.

If he that shared the danger enjoyed the profit, and after bleeding in the battle, grew rich by the victory, he might show his gains without envy. But, at the conclusion of a ten years' war, how are we recompensed for the death of multitudes, and the expense of millions, but by contemplating the sudden glories of paymasters and agents, contractors and commissioners, whose equipages shine like meteors and whose palaces rise like exhalations.—Dr. Samuel Johnson in a pamphlet produced in 1771.

A BETTER WAY THAN REARMAMENT

New Zealand Plan To Deal With War's Causes

INTERESTING, in view of a report in *The Times* that "New Zealand opinion so far expressed strongly supports the British flexible capital defence programme as a warning that Great Britain is determined to safeguard her position," is a suggestion from New Zealand of a more useful type of "defence" on which to spend public money.

The New Zealand Government, says the *Peace Record*, organ of the National Peace Council of that country, should set up a Bureau of Friendship "instead of spending a million pounds a year on what are called 'defence' preparations."

FEAR COMPLEX

"ONE of the shackles harnessing people to war," says the *Peace Record*, "is the fear complex which seems of late to have gained in intensity.

"Eliminate the fear complex and two-thirds of our task would be accomplished. An important part of peace work must lie in promoting the spirit of friendship and good will internationally."

Through the suggested Bureau of Friendship "the Minister-in-Charge could carry on negotiations with other countries with the object of

1. "Establishing bureaux.

2. "Investigating all questions likely to lead to differences with the object of discovering amicable solutions.

3. "Allocating the million pounds now squandered in war preparations to positive peace propaganda."

A harvest of good will and real peace would, it is claimed, be the result of "such a departure from the age long, worn out practice of diplomacy" and a campaign to impress the Government with the necessity for such a reform is suggested by the *Peace Record*.

More Arms For Austria Who Pays The Price?

From an Austrian Correspondent

Official declarations say that armaments have a good effect on trade.

That has also been said with a view to making the doubling of the armaments item in this year's budget more tolerable, by Herr Schuschnigg, the Austrian chancellor, some time ago.

Now the public are openly advised by another official economic body as follows:—

"Armaments have been the cause of an all round appreciable increase in prices. If armaments continue the boom will not come to an end so soon."

At the same time this concern points out that the purchasing power of the masses has declined. Workers have not only to support directly the burden of armaments by paying higher taxes, but also indirectly by an increase in all prices.

WAR RESISTERS IN DENMARK

Alternative Service Camps Full

ALTERNATIVE service camps in Denmark—for war resisters who accept the civil service offered in that country—are full and there is said to be a waiting list!

Forty-seven men are in the camp at Gribskov and 64 at Kompedal (according to *The War Resister*).

A possible change in Danish policy with regard to the policy of collective "security" is also indicated in *The War Resister*. Denmark supported the policy of sanctions during the Italo-Abyssinian war, but it is said that the Government, "already so far ahead of others in Europe in matters relating to practical politics, has learnt from subsequent developments that this method does not achieve the end it is intended to bring about."

END OF AN OLD ANIMOSITY

Armenians' Welcome for a Turk

In view of the bitter hatred which has long existed between Turks and Armenians and the savage persecution of the latter by the former, it is interesting to note that a new era of good will seems to be dawning between these former enemies.

A significant incident occurred in Marseilles where there are many Armenians who have emigrated from Turkey. A Turk visiting this French city informed Turkish newspapers of the great attention which these Armenians paid him.

Of his reception in an Armenian home, to which he had been most cordially invited, this Turk wrote:

"They met me as one meets a brother on the pilgrim way. Women, children, and everyone all but hugged me. They had a table set in Turkish fashion, and a gramophone playing Turkish records all the time."

"The food was all made in Turkish style, and all the conversation turned around the homeland. Turkish culture had worked its way right into the marrow of their bones."—Nofrontier News Service.

HE OPPOSED THE GREAT WAR



Courtesy, "World Events"

SENATOR WILLIAM J. STONE, to whom the above memorial has recently been erected in Nevada, Missouri, is best remembered in the United States for his anti-war stand in 1917, when he was chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

"He differed with the administration, being opposed to entering the War," said the *Nevada Daily Mail*. "For as he looked into the future he could only see unnecessary sacrifice of human life, misery, and poverty, and he resisted powerful pressure that

was put on him to make him change his decision."

Engraved on his monument is a statement he made in the Senate which created a profound impression:

I shall vote against this monstrous mistake, this resolution for the declaration of war, to prevent which I would willingly lay down my life.

Although he is remembered for his resistance to pro-war propaganda, Senator Stone did, in fact, support efforts made after the United States had actually entered the conflict.

INHUMANITY OF MODERN WAR

WORKERS STOP ARMS FOR SPAIN

"Do Unto Others"

THERE has been much ado in the last years about the "inhumanity" of Mussolini's campaign in Ethiopia and the frightful bombardment of Madrid.

In Africa, Red Cross hospitals were bombed, poison gas was used against the natives, unarmed cities were the targets of bombing planes, flame throwers were used to scorch and blister human bodies while the movie camera recorded the horrible details.

What is being conveniently forgotten is that all nations are preparing for exactly the same kind of warfare. Various rules have been agreed upon for the "humanization" of warfare, the use of poison gas has been barred, unarmed cities are not to be bombarded, &c. But the value of these is hardly more than the paper they are recorded on.

This is conceded by military and naval men in their franker moments. Thus, for example, the naval correspondent of the *Sunday Observer* explained recently: "By a nation fighting for its existence these rules are no more likely to be observed than were the pre-War regulations which forbade the bombardment of open towns, the discharge of projectiles and explosives from balloons. . . , and the use of projectiles the only object of which is the diffusion of asphyxiating or deleterious gases."—Nofrontier News Service.

In Argel the dockers have refused to load or discharge the cargo of the "Calla Millo," a sailing ship, containing 202,000 kilograms of sugar, originating from Holland, and also of the "Calla Tuent," loaded with timber,

because these ships were destined for Spanish rebel territory and the dockers had resolved, on December 14, to transport nothing intended for the rebels.

Textile workers in Lodz (Poland) struck work when they learned that the materials and clothes they were manufacturing were for the fascist army in Spain.—Persdienst I.A.C.

It will be remembered that similar action taken by London dockers soon after the War prevented a consignment of arms being despatched to Russia.

Peace Pledge Union

PUBLIC OPINION AND PACIFISM *The Power of Example*

By JOHN BARCLAY

EVERYWHERE I go I meet with thoughtful people deeply concerned with the question of peace and war.

It is becoming more and more certain that public opinion—that rather uncertain and invisible power—is making itself felt. There are more people reading pacifist literature today than ever before and books such as Bertrand Russell's *Which Way to Peace?* have definitely filled a gap in the bookshelves.

But before people become whole-hearted pacifists, they need to have more than doubts removed—they want certainties to take their place. It is always at this point that I feel inadequate as an individual to convince by any safer method than example.

Group work here becomes essential and the constant example of men and women of all kinds working together for peace gives just what is needed.

WOMEN'S INTEREST

The Women's Cooperative Guild at Watford met last week and listened to a talk on the work of the Peace Pledge Union. How closely they listened became apparent from the number of questions asked and the desire shown to understand the implications of pacifism.

If all Women's Guilds in the country could be persuaded that the goal they were working for could only be obtained through pacifism, there would at least be a voice that no government could ignore.

At Nottingham a large public meeting was held recently at which Brig.-Gen. Crozier and Mr. J. H. Hudson spoke, and from which a group of the Union was formed.

A study circle has been formed and it is hoped to train speakers who will be equipped with answers to all the arguments and difficulties which are raised and will tour the villages round about. The study group meets at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesdays, at Castle Gate Lecture Hall.

Bexhill-on-Sea has a group which covers the whole of that district. Meetings have been held since September once a month and the study circle meets once a week.

They have also a group library of pacifist literature and PEACE NEWS is taken each week to the public library and also to the waiting rooms of the central station.

I hear that the Pickering (Yorkshire) group is getting down to real work with the Rev. A. G. Creber as general leader of the group. I hope all people living in the neighbourhood will join it by getting in touch with the secretary, Mr. F. J. Bull, Southgate, Pickering. A group has been started at Kentish Town. The group leader is Jack Brown, 23 Gillies Street, N.W.5. Will anyone willing to help please get in touch?

Acton group is needing lots of volunteers, who are asked to get in touch with R. W. Mansell, 135 Western Avenue, W.3.

The Keighley group has arranged a public play reading for March 23, when two pacifist plays will be read by members of the group.

This is one of the many districts where all members of the P.P.U. have recently been circularized or personally canvassed. At Middleton the latter method was adopted, and it is hoped that the personal contact thus made will be the means of getting a larger percentage of support for the group.

PRESS PROPAGANDA

Members in this town were successful in arranging for a monthly article on "Peace and Pacifism" to appear in the *Middleton Guardian*, and in a recent issue practically the whole of Max Plowman's article "Should a Christian Fight?" was inserted. At the foot of the article was added the pledge and an invitation for signatures.

It is proposed to hold a camp for members of the P.P.U. at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, for a fortnight from July 24 to August 6.

The total cost, exclusive of travelling expenses, would be 35s. The camp would be a "holiday camp" under canvas on the site of the permanent camp at Swanwick, which is ideal for the purpose.

It is hoped that many of the sponsors and other well-known friends would be able to be present for at least some of the time, and that the camp would provide the opportunity for members of the various groups to meet one another.

... and Miss Regent writes:—

HAVE you any friends who want to hear more about pacifism before they join the Peace Pledge Union?

Well, what about suggesting that they attend the lunch-hour meetings at King's Weigh House on Fridays?

If the first four which we have arranged are a success we may be able to arrange some more, so make them known—especially among those who want to know more.

Talking of meetings... we have arranged so many during the last few weeks that all our "draws" are booked up for many months ahead. We have several less well known speakers who are extremely effective exponents of our case and I hope that they will soon become names to conjure with.

Anyway, let me warn any intending to organize meetings in their local town halls or cinemas that it is no use asking for the "Dick" Sheppards and Bertrand Russells for a long while yet.

I am sure that all our members will be delighted to hear that Miss Vera Brittain has joined the Sponsors and will be present at the next meeting when the new executive committee will make a report of its work. This committee has now met several times and deals weekly with an agenda as long as your arm.

"WHY WE JOINED THE P.P.U."

By Ex-Soldiers and C.O.s.

An urgent request that the Government should

prepare and submit to other nations a scheme for the total abolition of military and naval aircraft, and that it should appoint a commission to prepare a scheme for control of civil aviation

is contained in a letter which the Air Disarmament Committee has lately been circulating among people concerned with education for signature and eventual submission to Mr. Baldwin.

Professor Gilbert Murray, Sir Michael Sadler, and the principals of Aberdeen University and Bangor University College are among the signatories.

ADULT SCHOOL PEACE GROUP

From Our Own Correspondent

Representatives of the League of Nations Union, No More War Movement, Peace Pledge Union, and the Carrs Lane Church Pacifist Group were present at the formation of a Midland Adult School Peace Group in Birmingham last week.

A meeting of this group was arranged for March 8 when several young people will give papers on various aspects of the pacifist message.

NO MONEY FOR DEFENCE

A FEW weeks ago the Suffolk coast village of Benacre was reported to be in danger of being turned into an island by the encroachment of the sea.

It was stated that "something like £8,000 would provide an adequate defence scheme." The village had not got the money, however, and efforts to obtain Government assistance had failed.

£1,500,000,000 for arms—but £8,000 could not be found for real defence.

EASTER CONFERENCE OF YOUTH

Facing Modern Problems

The programme for the Easter Youth Conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation which is being held at St. Margaret's School, Welwyn, from March 25 to 30, has just been issued.

The list of speakers includes the Rev. Leslie Artingstall, Rev. Alan Balding, Dr. E. Conze, Rev. R. E. Fenn, Frank Hancock, Miss Muriel Lester, Rev. W. G. B. Ream, Richard C. Wood, and Isabel Lunt.

The Conference is entitled "The pacifist faces the modern world," and is divided into three sections:

1. Facing the facts.
2. Reviewing the basis.
3. Planning the future.

For further details write to Richard C. Wood, F.O.R. 17 Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1.

An indication of F.O.R. activity may be gained from the fact that ten new branches have been formed since the beginning of this year.

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'In the Seats of the Mighty'

Drawn by ARTHUR WRAGG

ENCE

IT SEEKS TO ME by Ampersand

There Were Giants in Those Days

OUR rulers it would appear, from last week's discussion of the colonial question, have not yet reached the level of sanity of Grangousier, the giant, of whom Rabelais wrote in the sixteenth century.

Grangousier was invaded by his neighbour Pichrochol because some of his subjects had taken from some of Pichrochol's subjects cakes which they had refused to sell.

Grangousier was so anxious to avoid war that for the five dozen cakes stolen he returned five cartloads, one of them of "cakes made with fine butter, fine yolks of egg, fine saffron and fine spice." He gave also "seven hundred thousand and three Phillips (one hundred and five thousand pounds, nine shillings of English money)" and a farm with an apple orchard. "And for God's sake," said he, "let us live henceforward in peace, and let us be good friends as before."

It is true that Grangousier's attempt to keep the peace failed and he therefore took to war. But we in our time have not said first: "I will labour to content him."

The King and His Councillors

MEANWHILE Pichrochol on the other side, once war had started, could see nothing but war

and was persuaded by his coun-

cillors, the Duke of Smalltrash, the Earl of Swashbuckler and Captain Durtaille, to be "the happiest, the most warlike and chivalrous prince that ever was since the death of Alexander of Macedonia." And while he still sat on his throne the four of them talked of conquering the world and dividing it between them.

There was present at that time "an old gentleman well experienced in the wars named Echephron" who asked, "What do you pretend by these large conquests? What shall be the end of so many labours and crosses?"

"Thus it shall be," said Pichrochol, "that when we are returned, we shall sit down, rest, and be merry."

"But," said Echephron, "if by chance you should never come back, for the voyage is long and dangerous, were it not better for us to take our rest now?"

They called him a dotard.

A Difference in Tactics

HERR HITLER.

I see, has declared that he means to make Germany a nation of motorists.

On the other hand a gentleman who wrote to the *Daily Mirror* a little while ago invited young men to join the Territorials on the ground that, at any rate, it was "better than scouring the roads in a motor car."

These fine distinctions are interesting. I'm told they're caused by the blood—or is it the soil?

News in Brief

THE Sunday Dispatch re-

ports that "Football playing fairies who drink whisky are scaring Mr. Mat Dowling, who lives with his wife Minnie in a cottage at Turin, Killucan."

"It is a terrible thing," says Mr. Dowling, "to make a man live in such a place in a Christian country. I am kept awake whenever there is a big match."

From the *Sunday Dispatch* (same issue):—

Royal Navy..3 pts. R.A.F..3 pts.
Civil Service..3 pts. The Army..24 pts.

Numerical Crossword

(With acknowledgments to "Dogberry" of the *News Chronicle*.)

1	2	3
2		
3		

CLUES

Across:

- Number of millions of pounds wanted for the government armaments loan.

2. 1 across minus 400.

3. 2 across squared.

Down:

1. Number of thousands of pounds wanted to complete the Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street.

2. 2 across plus 3 across.

3. 2 down squared.

400's are in the news!

THE HEIGHT OF ABSURDITY

THE War Council of the U.S.S.R. is considering the fortification of Russia's immensely long Western Frontier on the model of France's famous Maginot Line and, presumably, that also of Germany's Rhineland system. There is strong common sense in the idea and we may, perhaps, see the day when all international European frontiers are thus protected by impregnable works of steel, iron, and ferro-concrete, connected by underground passage-ways and with a glacis slope in front.

The armies of countries at war will then act as linesmen, filing into position as if on the note of a whistle, while the air forces contend for victory above. It will only remain for aircraft types to be developed enabling the respective air forces to engage in battles in the air with all their strength while the lists are kept below. More and more does modern war become absurd.—*United Services Review*.

Peace News

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The Weekly Newspaper of the Peace Pledge Union
Taking the Constructive Pacifist Position, but
providing news, information and an open forum
Serving all who are working for Peace

February 27, 1937

£1,500 Millions for War: The Only Answer

THE colossal size of this country's armament bill as estimated in the "Statement Relating to Defence Expenditure" (as White Paper No. 5374 is called) has had the interesting effect of waking up a number of people who had hitherto not fully realized what the war method means in practice. The effect will be useful in so far as it makes those people take some intelligent step to end the war method and establish the peace method, rather than simply get panicky. It is interesting as showing how complacently the great majority of our fellow-countrymen accept the relentless, steady march of the war method toward its hideous goal until it reaches their own personal lives—their comforts, their pockets, even their barest physical requirements.

That complacency is the real danger to the peace of the world, not the attitude of the pacifist. Because it is pitifully ineffective to try to remove the weeds of war by an eleventh-hour hacking at its buds when the weeds have been firmly taking root in the years of complacency. If you permit the war method in its early stages—acquiesce in it, that is, without at least some form of protest, if not of active opposition—you have no right to complain when it inevitably permeates the whole body politic like the insidious poison that it is.

Nor is there much advantage now in trying to lessen the burden without seeking to remove it as a whole. Arms are not a burden in the sense that, say, a load of straw is, so that to remove some may make a difference. They are one expression of a method of human relationships—the method of self-seeking and suspicion—and as such depend for their amount entirely upon the way that method goes. Any who accept this, the established, method of doing things as inevitable must be prepared to support it in the only logical way. The only way to remove arms and arms expenditure is increasingly to cut away their foundation, replacing it by a new way of life—the way of cooperation and service. To work for that is the pacifist answer to the £1,500,000,000 arms plan.

THE BRITISH PRESS and ANGLO-SOVIET RELATIONS



A "palace of industry" in the new Russia.

FEW, I think, will dispute today that at various and crucial times since the advent of the Soviet Government to power on November 7, 1917, the attitude of the press, with some exceptions, toward the new régime has not been characterized by that "horse sense" on which we pride ourselves.

Although most of our great dailies were represented in Russia at the time of the November Revolution, Fleet Street was convinced that the Soviet régime could not last.

Thus, on November 12, *The Times* wrote: "Lenin's reign is apparently drawing to a close." The *Daily News* stated: "Sober and responsible opinion in Russia considers that it will not last very long." And the *Daily Telegraph* declared: "It is possible that by now the whole mad business has been brought to an end."

In February, 1919, the Prime Minister, Mr. Lloyd George, invited all the contending governments on Russian territory to meet in conference in Prinkipo. The "Whites" refused. The Soviets and the Baltic States agreed.

The proposal was allowed to drop because, to quote Mr. Winston Churchill, "The moment was unpropitious. Koltchak's armies had just gained notable successes in Siberia."

First Trade Agreement

Time passed. The "Whites" had been driven out of Soviet territory. The British Government signed a trade agreement with Soviet Russia, March 16, 1921.

Next day *The Times* commented:

"Lenin and his accomplices will enjoy the credit and prestige of recognition as a *de facto* government by the Government of the King. . . They will use it surreptitiously, of course, but not the less effectually, to 'spread the tentacles of their poisonous influence throughout the world.'"

The *Morning Post* stated: "It (the agreement) is worth nothing except

to the Bolsheviks, for whom it is a victory greater than a battle."

On the other hand, the *Daily Express* commented: "The Government in general, and Sir Robert Horne in particular, deserve the utmost credit for persistent efforts which have now come to fruition."

Crisis in 1923

In May, 1923, a very serious crisis arose between Great Britain and the Soviet Union. An ultimatum was handed to the Soviet Government on May 8, threatening to break the Anglo-Soviet Trade Agreement unless within ten days satisfactory assurances were received regarding territorial waters, and anti-British activities and propaganda in Persia, India, and Afghanistan.

The *Daily Chronicle* commented: "The suspicion is irresistible that Lord Curzon is yielding to the diehards in his party. . . The diehards are not so much indignant at British wrongs in Russia as fanatical haters of the Soviet régime."

The *Daily Telegraph* stated: "The feeling that the last relics of official relationship between the British Government and the Bolshevik tyranny are about to disappear is a relief and a matter for rejoicing."

When a reply was received from Moscow which was generally described as "conciliatory" the comment of *The Times* was: "A break would be a relief." However, after a further exchange of Notes the dispute was considered as at an end.

"De Jure" Recognition

On February 1, 1924, Great Britain recognized *de jure* the Government of the U.S.S.R.

Next day the *Morning Post* insisted: ". . . recognition of the Bolsheviks would be a cardinal error."

The Times declared: "The Bolsheviks may feel encouraged for a time, but it is financial credit that they need to hold up their precarious rule."

However, the *Daily Chronicle* commented: "Mr. MacDonald is right in paving the way for the immediate recognition of the Russian Government. We have long held that to refuse to take this step was to ignore the convincing logic of fact."

Arcos Raid

On May 12, 1926, the offices of Messrs. Arcos, Ltd., were entered by the police in search of a British State document which was said to have been taken to these premises. The document was not found but on May 26, 1927, the Government severed diplomatic relations with the U.S.S.R.

Next day *The Times* informed its readers "these relations have been proved to be a sham. . ." The *Daily Telegraph* averred: "It is not by truckling to the Bolshevik temperament that one gains its respect."

by
W. P. COATES,
Secretary, Anglo-Russian
Parliamentary Committee and
author of "Armed Intervention
in Russia, 1918-1922" and
"Scenes from Soviet Life."

Renewal of Relations

The House of Commons sanctioned the renewal of diplomatic relations on November 5, 1929.

The *Morning Post* commented: "Nothing whatever is to be gained, but much is to be endangered by this country from the step which the Socialist Government has insisted on taking."

The Times declared: "Mr. Henderson's meek agreement to exchange Ambassadors first and negotiate afterwards has given the Bolsheviks an advantage they will certainly exploit to the full."

On the other hand, the *Daily News* stated: "Mr. Henderson need not pay serious attention to nonsensical Conservative opinion which imagines that the only way to earn the respect of the Russians is to 'treat 'em rough.'"

Present Trade Agreement

The present trade agreement was signed in February, 1934. The comments now were very different in tone and content.

The *Daily Telegraph* stated: "In all the circumstances the Anglo-Soviet Temporary Commercial Agreement may be considered fairly satisfactory to British interests. . ."

The Times declared: "A new chapter in the development of mutual trade between Great Britain and Russia will be opened by the ratification of the agreement. . . It is impossible to keep a great country like Russia in an isolation ward."

This Agreement was hailed by the British press with a few exceptions.

Today

The completely changed attitude of certain important dailies was brought out very forcibly in the comments on Hitler's last Reichstag speech in which he refused friendly collaboration with the U.S.S.R.

The *Morning Post* commented: ". . . by refusing to have any dealing with Russia, Herr Hitler makes it clear that he does not desire such a settlement."

The Times argued that Hitler's policy to exclude from the European comity "an organized State with a population of 170,000,000 could do little to promote evolution and would sin against common sense."

And the *Daily Telegraph* emphatically denounced Hitler's offer of peace in Western Europe in return for a free hand against Russia.

Throughout I have avoided any comment. The extracts speak for themselves.

DISSENSION OVER "DEFENCE" LOAN

Policy of "Stark Rearmament" Condemned

"THE extreme gravity of the situation revealed by the Government's request for powers to borrow up to £400,000,000 during the next five years for the purposes of 'defence' expenditure, and by its evident intention to spend on war preparation the enormous and unprecedented sum of £1,500,000,000 in the period in question" was emphasized by the Executive Committee of the National Peace Council in a statement issued last week.

The Council strongly condemned the recourse to extensive borrowing in order to finance the armament programme, because it would stimulate an armament boom and cause a sharp rise of prices, was financially dishonest, and encouraged the "dangerously mistaken impression" that vast proportions of the national resources could be devoted and diverted to armaments without grave effect upon the general welfare of the people.

The Government's recourse to a policy of stark rearmament and its refusal to propound a clear and constructive policy must, said the Council, serve to accelerate the general race in armaments and to bring nearer the ultimate catastrophe to which this race is leading.

The Council also believed that 1. The best safeguard of national security and peace and the best defence of democracy lay in the pur-

NATIONAL PEACE CONGRESS

THE National Peace Council announces that it has been found necessary to alter the date of this year's National Peace Congress from April 9-12, as originally announced, to May 28-31.

The Congress is to meet in London at Friends House, Euston Road, N.W.1.

suit of a practical policy of international cooperation and appeasement.

2. There were now exceptional opportunities of encouraging this appeasement, particularly by action to loosen the bonds of trading.

3. There lay upon this country special obligations of leadership for these ends.

So far as can be judged, protest against the Government's plans has been voiced more in this country than abroad (at any rate publicly), as the following comments show:

ABROAD

Australia. "Great Britain has vainly endeavoured to lead the world toward disarmament. Her new policy must be regarded as an insurance against war and a definite contribution to the peace of the world."—Mr. J. A. Lyons, Premier.

France. Favourable comment by all parties.

Germany. "There is no more criticism here of the British programme than Germany would wish other countries to pass upon her own armaments."—Berlin Correspondent of *Manchester Guardian*.

Italy. "It is clear that England wishes to direct a warning not only

(Continued foot of next column)

NO CONSCRIPTION IN NEW ZEALAND

Pledge by Premier

PROPAGANDA in New Zealand for the introduction of conscription has probably received its quietus as a result of a pledge given by Mr. Savage, the Prime Minister, that so long as the country is ruled by the Labour Government conscription would not be enforced.

The promise was made last Saturday to a deputation from the New Zealand National Peace Council.

A good deal of apprehension on this question had been felt in recent months, particularly as a Compulsory Military Service Act was still on the Statute Book, but Mr. Savage added (according to the *Daily Herald*) that "it will not be there much longer."

(Continued from Column 1) to Germany but also to Japan and Italy."—*Tribuna*.

Japan. "If the effects of British rearmament could be confined to Europe Japan would be little disturbed."—Tokyo correspondent of *The Times*.

U.S.A. "In the United States the British programme will be understood and generally approved."—*New York Times*.

New Zealand. Strong support expressed.

AT HOME

The Times. "The mere mention of £1,500,000,000 is sufficient to show the absurdity of the argument that the whole cost should be met out of current taxation."

Manchester Guardian. "There is no attempt to justify this enormous expenditure by explaining the precise aims for which we are rearmed."

Forward. "When the £1,500,000,000 has been spent the result will be the same. We will not sleep any safer in our beds."

Social Credit. "Neither we nor our children need go into debt; neither we nor our children need pay an extra tax; nor make any sacrifice other than the extra work involved in making guns' as well as 'butter.'

Aneurin Bevan, M.P. in *The Tribune*. "The issue is, therefore, not one of arms or no arms, but of the policy which the nation should pursue in order to defend the workers against the danger of war which is implicit in the capitalist world."

Liberal Party Executive Committee, in a resolution adopted last week, recorded its "grave objections" to the defence loan on grounds of financial policy.

(Leading article on opposite page.)

PLEA FOR YOUNG REFUGEES

THE number of refugees who left Germany last month equalled the number which fled during May, 1933, the biggest previous month, said Dr. Hanna Eisfelder, member of the Assistance Médicale aux Enfants des Réfugiés Allemands (of Paris), in London last week.

The situation remains difficult despite the fact that France signed an international agreement whereby the signatory States bound themselves not to expel any refugees within their borders at that time.

Soon afterwards she passed a decree not only giving them the right to stay in France but pardoning them for any past infringements of old regulations which had rendered them liable to punishment. A fortnight ago Belgium passed a similar decree.

Nevertheless, it appears that Switzerland wishes to sign the international agreement but that she is making the best of both worlds by expelling the refugees before she signs, and today there are only a few refugees with private means left in Switzerland. There are 1,500 children in France whose parents have not enough money on which to live.

Part of Dr. Eisfelder's purpose at the present time was to raise more money in England. Her final words were "You also must become a friend to these children, else they cannot live. If you help these children of today the next generation will be thankful to you."

TELLING THE FACTS ABOUT U.S.S.R.

To correct wrong impressions concerning the progress which is being made in the U.S.S.R. and to apprise people in Britain of the aims of the new constitution, a second national congress of peace and friendship with the U.S.S.R. has been arranged for March 13 and 14 by many distinguished people of all shades of political opinion.

The programme includes the subjects "The new Soviet Constitution," "The peace policy of the Soviet Union," "Cultural developments in the U.S.S.R.," "Soviet planning," and also performances of a new Soviet film.

Organizations are invited to send delegates to the congress, and credentials will be supplied on application to the secretary, Congress Committee, 4 Great James Street, London, W.C.1, a remittance of 1s. per delegate to accompany application.

PACIFISTS MUST KNOW THE GALLOWS
is an expression of fear, hatred and despair—the raw material of war. Every inroad on cruelty strengthens mass resistance to the mass brutalities which threaten. Pacifists should therefore actively support abolition of the death penalty. Particulars and free literature can be had from The Secretary, National Council for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, Parliament Mansions, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1

PLAN FOR A COMMON EFFORT

To Assist the Cause of Democracy

DESPITE suggestions, which might involve military force, for the "re-establishment of a system of collective security," useful proposals are contained in a "Programme of priorities" issued last week by the "Next Five Years" Group.

Reservations regarding the possible use of military force have been made by pacifist signatories to the programme, but unity with non-pacifists has been reached on constructive proposals, including:

1. Separation of the League Covenant and the I.L.O. from the Versailles Treaty.

2. Setting up of fact-finding commissions to examine outstanding problems.

3. Reassembly of Disarmament Bureau to work simultaneously with these commissions on schemes for the limitation, reduction, and supervision of armaments, and organization of security in Europe.

4. Calling of inter-Governmental conferences to deal with these and other problems on the basis of the commissions' reports, followed by world conference to embody these and work of Disarmament Bureau in a general settlement.

INTERNAL PROPOSALS

On matters affecting the internal economy, &c., of the nation, proposals are divided into two sections "Human Needs" and "Efficiency of the Economic Machine."

In the former recommendations are made regarding the home and its surroundings, health and nutrition, education, security and livelihood, and the special and distressed areas.

The scope of the reforms put forward in the second section may be gathered from the following headings, under which they appear: planning for prosperity, social control, specific industries (coal, cotton, electricity, food, and agriculture), finance, taxation, and industrial relations.

The group has submitted the programme "for discussion among those in all parties who see the importance of a common effort to serve the nation and strengthen its influence in the world at this critical time" because it believes it can thereby "assist the cause of democracy."

REGAIN FAITH IN PERSUASION

By a PEACE NEWS Reporter

The opinion that Nazi militarism would be dealt a stupendous blow if Britain were to say to Hitler that she did not see any reason for fighting Germany, was voiced by Bertrand Russell at a meeting held at Walthamstow last week.

The way to deal with militarism, he said, was not to believe in militarism. This age had lost faith in the power of persuasion; it had faith only in big armaments and the methods of warfare.

Collective "security" was merely the "Triple Entente" under another name.

A FILM STAR'S WORK FOR PEACE

By ERIC W. SYKES

Last week PEACE NEWS reported that its film critic had been in touch with Francis Lederer, founder of the World Peace Federation, and famous film star. Here he tells of Lederer, the W.P.F. (in some respects not unlike the P.P.U.) and its work, from first hand information straight from Hollywood to PEACE NEWS.

A WAY back in December, 1933, Francis Lederer, unusually intellectual and unspoiled film star, was invited to address a meeting of the Institute of World Affairs by its chancellor, Dr. Rufus B. von Kleinsmid.

The institute is composed of the leading educational institutions of America, and Lederer must have felt that there were cynics in his audience wondering what a film star had to offer them... they need not have worried.

Francis presented, for the first time, a new, a vital plan for world peace, embracing every country, every nation. His audience sat, electrified... who was this European film star... was it another, a greater, undreamed of publicity stunt?

It was not. It was the beginning of a mighty organization which has swept America as the P.P.U. has swept Britain. At that 1933 meeting at the

FRANCIS LEDERER: born November 6, 1906, in Prague, he won a scholarship to the Prague Academy of Dramatic Art before he was eighteen. Success came to him early—made a name for himself in Berlin under Max Reinhardt.

Made first English appearance in "My Sister and I." Appeared in a number of continental films, then to Hollywood, where he was an immediate hit. First real success "Romance in Manhattan." Current film, "My American Wife," with Ann Sothern, from which our illustration was taken.

Mission Inn, Riverside, California, Lederer's plan was only half-formed; yet it gripped, enthused his audience. It had "caught on."

HIS FIRST SPEECH

Extracts from his first speech have been recorded—will live as long as the movement exists...

"The people of the world are against war. Only those who seek to profit by it, people in high governmental and commercial circles, who have always advanced the cause of war and who have forced nations to war.

"The people of the world, if they were properly organized and given a voice against war, would outlaw it for ever.

"The quickest and most logical way to obtain this expression from the people is to ask them to sign cards stating their desire to outlaw war: when we obtain a number of cards sufficient to place the matter of outlawing war to a vote of the nation, they will serve as a lever to force legislation by ruling bodies throughout the world."

His words were received with a wave of enthusiasm which surprised



Francis Lederer

Lederer himself. But he was a busy man, and his studio work kept him hard at it for many months.

Those who had heard the fire of his plea for peace did not forget it—kept reminding him, urging him to take immediate action. So, after careful and full consideration, and entirely at his own expense, the World Peace Federation Inc., was founded.

That was in February, 1934. Today, still as strongly, and even more strongly backed than ever before, the W.P.F. goes on winning into its peaceful ranks old men, young men, women... all who are old enough to think for themselves.

NON-POLITICAL

It has no political affiliations whatever. Its policy is strictly within the constitutional laws of all countries.

The W.P.F., like the P.P.U., is a means of letting the people speak for themselves.

Francis Lederer knows all about war—he served in the so-called "Great" War of 1914-1918 (he was only fourteen when he first tasted the bitter fruits of man's biggest folly) and at sixteen he had a plan for world peace formulated. Himself a Czechoslovakian, he found that the only peace organization in that country had only eight members for, they said, there was no need for a peace organization as there would never be another war, after the "war to end war"...

He has toured America, lecturing in universities, clubs, churches, and always the plan has aroused tremendous enthusiasm. He has made more than 135 speeches, not including a large number of radio talks.

He has the official backing of such organizations as the Parent-Teachers Association, Rotary, Lions Clubs, churches of every denomination, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A., the National Council for the Prevention of War, and many other influential bodies.

WORLD-WIDE MEMBERSHIP

Branches of the Federation have been established all over the world, and hundreds of thousands of cards have been signed by the peoples of every race. The card (I have one before me as I write, which Lederer sent over for me) states simply:

(Continued foot of next column)

"Whatever their nationality

Broadcasting

PEOPLE IN TROUBLE ARE VERY MUCH ALIKE"

—declares German Doctor

By R. M. HOLBROW

THIS homely truth, invariably forgotten in wartime and not always remembered when we are at peace, was uttered recently by a German doctor in the course of a talk delivered in Berlin and broadcast by the B.B.C.

He was comparing notes of his working experiences with an English doctor who spoke from this country.

Naturally, though details varied, the two had much in common, including a conception of their calling as one of service to humanity. Both, obviously, were animated by warm sympathy for the suffering and it was when he spoke of his patients, who included a number of foreigners, that the German doctor made the remark quoted at the head of this article.

He was discussing bodily ailments, of course, but the words are capable of a wider and deeper interpretation.

The peoples of the world are perhaps more "in trouble" of mind and spirit over the danger of war than ever before, and in the growing realization of how "very much alike" we all are lies one of our greatest hopes for the future.

POST-WAR TROUBLES

The German spoke without bitterness of the extreme hardships undergone by medical students in his country immediately after the War; of the sacrifices they had to make in order to continue their studies; of the opinion he formed when he first visited England in 1927 that English workers were much better fed than his fellow-countrymen.

It is well for us in Great Britain to reflect on the sufferings of post-War Germany at a

(Continued from column 2)

I am in accord with the aim of the World Peace Federation to outlaw war by nation-wide popular vote in every country.

At a great mass meeting on Sunday, September 8, 1935, at the San Diego Exposition, with scores of prominent American public men and women, Francis Lederer said this:

"War is a relic... but idealism and enthusiasm for peace alone will not bring about the desired condition. The problem must be solved in a practical manner: the people must demand a voice in the declaring of future wars... if there are to be any."

"I do not believe the people of any nation want to fight. Governments and politicians have always decided to make war in the past, but seldom have the people had anything to say about it."

That is Lederer: quiet, reserved, yet with this ruling passion for the brotherhood of mankind.

In Lederer we have a welcome example of a man well-known to thousands in every country making use of that popularity, not for his own ends, but for the ends of international peace and prosperity in this and forthcoming generations.

time when we were comparatively prosperous. It may help us better to understand the present position in that country. The only reference to the Hitler régime made by the German speaker was when he expressed gratification that as one of Berlin's 5,000 working doctors he was helping to build the new Germany.

This talk was the fifth in a series of six "Exchanges" (now completed) between two persons, one British and one foreign, holding similar positions—an excellent idea for which the B.B.C. is to be commended.

The omission of a very desirable peace motto from the title page of the *Radio Times* is a pity but deeds are more important than words. In arranging such talks as "European Exchange" the B.B.C. is rendering good service to the cause of peace.

PEACE EXPRESSED IN MUSIC

From a Correspondent

MR. HEDLEY SMART does not mention Beethoven in his interesting article, *Music, an international Language*.

The deepest theme in Beethoven's life's work is an impassioned yearning for peace, making him one of the mighty prophets of that longing for social and international peace which is at the heart of us all.

Such glorious expression of good will and forgiveness was the response of a noble soul to utter loneliness and misunderstanding which saddened his life.

Significant is his treatment in the *Mass in D* of the theme "Dona Nobis Pacem" (Grant us thy Peace). This opens with an unmistakable indication of the state of the world, in a passage of distinctly militaristic music, followed by what he himself described as "a prayer for peace, internal and external."

Noblest of all is the *Ninth Symphony*, its Slow Movement the musical consummation of a life's yearning toward the peace and beauty which might be ours, and which is God's—and its great last choral movement, a setting of Schiller's *Ode to Joy*, calling upon the people of the world to love one another, to labour together in the spirit of brotherhood, abandoning the bitter music of discord and despair.

E.J.W.T.

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RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Anti-Gas "Defences" Examined

PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC FROM AERIAL ATTACK: AN EXAMINATION OF THE PRESENT PROPOSALS. By a Group of Cambridge Scientists. Golancz. 2s. 6d.

Reviewed by
Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier

FOR a considerable time past many people who do not take everything that emanates from Whitehall as gospel have been waiting for this book to see the light of day, as flat contradiction to the various pamphlets which have emerged from the Air Raid Precautions Department of the Home Office.

The important difference between this book and the A.R.P. publications is that the Cambridge scientists state their case, and at the same time give a detailed account of the experiments which have led to their conclusions, while the Home Office "experts" state a case which appears doubtful in its conclusions to the ordinary man in the street, and at the same time refrain from giving an account of their experiments.

The cause for this lapse is due to the weakness of the Home Office, professing to give protection from aerial attack—the motive for which is not realism, but mysticism and mirage.

Unlike the realists, the politicians have put across air raid precautions as part of propaganda for inculcating a false morale into the minds of the people, in regard to their ability to face up to an air invasion, without which it would be impossible for the Government to advocate and demand its £400,000,000 increase of armaments programme.

THEIR OWN MEDICINE

It has always been the habit of good soldiers in command not to ask the rank and file to do things they are not prepared to do themselves; a reason for the occasional presence of a brass hat in No Man's Land.

The best thing the Government can do, if it wishes the realists to swallow its propaganda about air raid precautions is for them to take a taste of the same medicine which they prescribe to their masters, the plain people of England. Let them lock themselves up in a so-called gas-proof room for a week!

This book should be placed in the hands of every Member of Parliament, county, borough, urban and rural district councillor and newspaper proprietor. Seriously, no better way of teaching realism to those in authority can be conceived, but would they read it! Anyhow, pacifists should read the book in order to be able to defend their case against the incorrigibles.

Ignoring the effect of blistering gases on the skin, Dr. H. Dolence Woodruffe, county director of the

Oxfordshire branch of the British Red Cross Society replied at Oxford last week to the charges brought in the above book.

He said that the official respirator as it would be issued to civilians and troops was 100 percent protection against any gas that was known. "As for the question of inefficiency of the so-called gas-proof room," he concluded, "nobody imagines for one moment that it is possible to produce a room which will keep out all gas and will house a number of people for an unlimited length of time."

REVIEWS IN BRIEF

THE NEW PACIFISM. Allenson and Co. Ltd. 2s. 6d.

This symposium of seven essays by such distinguished and varied types of writers as Gerald Heard, Aldous Huxley, A. A. Milne, Beverley Nichols, Horace G. Alexander, Carl Heath, and Canon H. R. L. Sheppard, presents the case for pacifism from all angles.

OUTLINE OF FINANCE. Arthur Woodburn. National Council of Labour Colleges, 15 South Hill Park Gardens, Hampstead, London, N.W.3. 2s. 6d.

This book, which is revised and enlarged, was first published in 1931, and is an invaluable guide to the understanding of the so-called "mysteries" of finance.

THE PEACE WEEK HANDBOOK. The British National Committee of the International Peace Campaign, 27 Chester Terrace, London, S.W.1. 6d.

The suggestions contained in this pamphlet for organizing a peace week are wide and comprehensive. In the introduction it says that the successful peace week must break away from the present spirit of defeatism if it is to persuade the man in the street that war can be avoided and that he has an immediate responsibility to do something for peace.

SHOULD NOT THE STRONG DEFEND THE WEAK? Rev. David C. Mitchell. The Church of Scotland Ministers' Peace Society. 2d.

The fallacies of the argument that the strong should defend the weak are made very clear in this excellent pamphlet.

A plan which, had we the courage to adopt it, would make an end of war, is

A
BIRMINGHAM PEACE PLAN
by HARRISON BARROW,
LELLA S. FLORENCE, and
WILFRED WELLOCK.

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From the International Pax Players' new pamphlet. On seat in centre can be seen Mr. William G. Fay, one of the founders of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin; Mr. J. C. Frevel of Haarlem, Holland, one of the first producers of *Miracle in Verdun*; Mrs. S. I. Hsuing and Mr. S. I. Hsuing, author of *Lady Precious Stream*.

KAREL CAPEK'S NEW PEACE PLAY

By JOHN ATHEY

THE conflict between democracy and dictatorship, and the problem of peace and war, form the subjects of a new play by Karel Capek, the Czech dramatist and part author, with his brother, of *The Insect Play*.

The play is entitled *The White Sickness* and great enthusiasm was shown at its first performance at Prague.

The hero is a doctor who has discovered a cure for an imaginary disease which the author calls "the white sickness" and is supposed to be similar to leprosy.

The doctor is a fervent pacifist and refuses to treat an armament manufacturer unless he gives up his factory.

In the meantime, the dictator of his country attacks a weak neighbouring State without warning. The dictator is himself stricken with the mysterious disease and eventually dies at the same time as the pacifist doctor.

Capek's play is a fervent defence of his democratic ideals and he expresses his firm belief in the ultimate triumph of peace.

This writer is fully qualified to write on the subject of paci-

Do You Know—

WHAT

£1,500,000,000

REALLY MEANS ?

BRITAIN'S expenditure on "defence" in the next five years may reach £1,500,000,000. Do you realize how vast that sum really is?

If you had to sit down and count out 1,500,000,000 pound notes, how long do you think it would take?

Well, counting the notes at the rate of one per second for eight hours a day, 300 days a year (thus giving a generous holiday allowance!) you would need over 173 years to finish the task. Five years to spend it—but over 24 times that period to count it.

ARE THERE ANY MORE?

SINCE we published (a fortnight ago) a list of public libraries in which PEACE NEWS is displayed, readers have written to tell us of its entry into the libraries at the following places:

Barnsley
Branksome
Bridgwater
Brighton
Golders Green
Parkstone
Poole
St. Albans
Thorne
Willesden
Ystradgynlais

This brings the total up to 37.

London stage, *Arms and the Man* was presented at the new People's Palace and another of his comedies follows *Uncle Vanya* at the Westminster.

Very shortly we hope to see his new play *Geneva* which is reported to be a satire on the methods of the League of Nations.

I have received an interesting pamphlet from the International Pax Players setting out their aims and activities. It gives a brief description of the growth of the movement and contains a picture of a group of celebrities at their last annual conference, reproduced here.

This leaflet is free to all who require information of an organization which has done pioneer work in the realms of peace drama.

"Dear Sir...."

PACIFISM AND THE CLERGY

Does Age Count?

IN justice to the Church of England I think it ought to be pointed out that the Church Assembly represents the older type of churchman, both lay and clerical.

If one worked out the average age of the clergy therein I think it would be found to be well over fifty, whereas if the opinions of the younger and rising generation of clergy were elicited the percentage of pacifists among them would probably cause surprise to a number of people.

I speak from experience.

(Rev.) R. C. R. GODFREY.
70 Christchurch Street,
Ipswich.

Who is best qualified to judge whether pacifists are a "danger to the peace of the world"—the patriotic bishops who "did their bit" blessing the shells on the "Home Front," or the pacifists of today who "did their bit" stopping them on the Western Front?

W. RATHBONE.
29 Brooklands Drive,
Greenford, Middlesex.

I completely fail to understand the attitude of the Christian Church to the war question.

War weapons of destruction must be either right or wrong. Surely if right we should have the most and best; but if wrong, we, as Christians, should not consider their use.

If the Church is anxious for the good of the people—all people—who are one family, surely absolute adherence to her Christian principle of love and sacrifice is the only way she can bring the people to believe in her Master.

A. HEDLEY COLE.
65 Broomwood Road,
Wandsworth Common, S.W.11.

Archbishop Temple maintains that it is our duty to obey the teaching of Christ, but it can only be obeyed in a Christian world. It is therefore useless to attempt to obey it now. When the world is Christian will be the time.

In other words we are to obey the teaching of Christ when it is no longer necessary.

(Rev.) BASIL MARTIN.
23 Chislehurst Avenue,
North Finchley, N.12.

WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?

How many of our signatories with children are adopting measures to imbue their children with proper social and pacifist outlook?

Do they, if they are able, send their kiddies to nursery schools where they have a chance to become proficient, friendly, social beings?

Are all tin soldiers, pistols, and mechanical toys pertaining to war withheld from them when they are home?

REGGIE A. LIVESEY.
74 Greenway Avenue,
Taunton.

WOMEN WHO WANT NO DEFENCE

AT a peace meeting at which I was speaking the other day a wish was expressed by the women of the audience that an opportunity might be provided for them and for others to make a declaration that they did not wish for the protection of men in any future war, if such protection involves war service.

I believe the women of the Society of Friends made a similar declaration in the last war. Perhaps the Peace Pledge Union might consider providing a means for such a declaration to be made on a large scale.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN.
Longmeadow,
Street, Somerset.

BADGES

With reference to my recent letter on the subject of a P.P.U. badge, I should like to point out that I had no desire to suggest that a badge should be worn by P.P.U. members, and thought I had made that clear by using the words "If we must have a badge."

I was sorry to see that those words were omitted in PEACE NEWS. However, I ought to have made my meaning clearer, for personally, I consider the wearing of any kind of P.P.U. badge is, at present, hardly likely to advance our cause, since it is regarded by many as a kind of challenge, and even a somewhat provocative challenge.

S. MARRABLE.
12 Glenair Avenue,
Parkstone, Dorset.

THE NO MORE WAR MOVEMENT

Will you allow me to correct a misstatement of fact in your issue of February 13?

Referring to the No More War Movement you state that it arose out of the No Conscription Fellowship. This was not so.

The No More War Movement was founded by Theodora Wilson Wilson, Edith Ratcliffe, Wilfred Wellock, W. C. Chamberlain, and myself, and arose out of the war-time Christian Peace Crusade and its journal *The Crusader*.

BEATRICE C. M. BROWN.
42 Freegrove Road,
Holloway, N.7.

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

As a member of the P.P.U. and an undenominational free-lance speaker and writer for pacifism in the light of Biblical psychology, I venture to ask whether there are any who would care to correspond or cooperate with me in furtherance of this perspective?

C. EGERTON PARRY.
48 Ferrers Avenue,
West Drayton, Middlesex.

Letters to the Editor should be as short as possible and written on one side of the paper only. Owing to pressure on space we reserve the right to publish extracts from letters.

Correspondents must send their names and addresses, though not necessarily for publication.

POLITICS AND PEACE

CREATIVE action toward peace, and to abolish both war and poverty, are the three great tasks of the twentieth century. They cannot be divided.

The clash between national interests today is the competition for foreign markets, to get rid of surplus production which nations have found no way of distributing to their own people.

There has been no real attempt to relate purchasing power to production in any country. Until this is achieved it is sheer waste of time to talk about peace. War is inevitable.

The party system of politics is played out. It was based upon methods, not desires. The people must state clearly what they desire, peace or war, security and wellbeing, or poverty and malnutrition.

The Peace Pledge Union recognizes this and is mobilizing the people's will for peace. The Social Credit movement, the League to Abolish Poverty, and the Prosperity Campaign are all educating the masses of the people to demand the good life which modern science and invention have made possible.

They recognize that the sovereign will of the people should prevail. This is the true democratic principle.

J. E. TUKE.
2 Guessens Walk,
Welwyn Garden City,
Hertfordshire.

A copy of PEACE NEWS for February 13 having been passed to me—the first time I have seen the paper—I was considerably cheered on reading it through, to find a letter from a Southampton Social Crediter.

The struggle is defining itself more and more clearly, all the world over, as the people versus the money power and no movement for peace which ignores this fact will get us far.

To take away the power of money may sound impossible, but it can be done as Major Douglas has made quite clear, and complete economic reform would cut away the roots of war.

"COMMONSENSE."
Colchester.

PLANS FOR ACTION

I believe every peace programme ought to be constructed in such a way as to be adoptable by governments as part of their programme, involving government money, personnel, and services.

Probably a company of 1,000 trained peace troops without weapons could do more and better than ten times as many soldiers in an area of trouble.

If pacifists could, for instance, stop crime in a town by definite and well planned action, surely everybody would sit up and take notice, and pacifists would be in demand everywhere, first for local problems, eventually for national and international problems.

W. P. RAWLINSON.
2614 Crawford Street,
Houston, Texas, U.S.A.

R. THOMAS.
57 Drylaw Crescent,
Blackhall, Edinburgh.

ALLEVIATING PAIN

May I suggest that the organization of the P.P.U. be assigned the task of alleviating pain and suffering on a voluntary basis at the outbreak of hostilities.

To make this the secondary issue of the movement would be to give it more favourable recognition and increase its membership.

E.G.
Twyford, Hampshire.

Late Letters**RELIGIOUS BASIS OF PACIFISM**

ANSWERING the recent correspondence suggesting that there is too strong a religious flavour about PEACE NEWS, I would like to suggest to those correspondents that the only doctrine which justifies us in throwing overboard the age-old tradition of patriotism, as we have done, is one of a religious or spiritual nature.

Most of us instinctively recognize that individual man is not a law unto himself and self-justified in whatsoever he pleases to do. We similarly recognize, despite the claims of the totalitarian State theory, that the same applies to a government (our attitude as war resisters is a tacit affirmation of this).

When challenged as to our justification, we cannot therefore logically escape from the position of having to claim that it lies in a belief that the extreme pacifist stand is in accordance with some principle, or the will of some authority, higher than both man and the State, and which, by virtue of its very nature and its relationship to us, is self-justified in claiming our fullest loyalty, even to the extent of our having to refuse it (should the two loyalties clash) to the State.

This, although not specifically mentioning either God or Christ, is essentially a religious and spiritual belief. If those who affirm that their reasons for being pacifists are not religious ones, would compare them very closely with this analysis, I think they would find a strong basic similarity between them.

If war indeed is contrary to the Creator's will, would we not be failing in our supreme duty if we diluted this full truth to make it acceptable to those who are only half way toward seeing it?

C. R. HOWE.

32 Alexandra Road,
London, N.W.8.

ANIMAL SLAUGHTER

While I am personally in favour of a totally anti-flesh diet I do not think that at the moment this is where the immediate concern of pacifists should be.

It seems to me that the first thing to do is to ensure that every animal killed for food has a painless death by the use of the humane killer and that all slaughter is carried out under the most perfect conditions obtainable.

EDWARD WINDEBANK.

15 Rose Road,
Southampton.

HISTORY BOOKS

Can any of your readers recommend a history book suitable for teaching history to children—one that does not glorify battles but portrays the work and suffering of the martyrs who have brought freedom to the world?

C. H. COX.

37 Kingswood Chase,
Leigh-on-Sea.

Dr. Torao Yamakawa, vice-president of the Japan International Association, in speaking of the recent events in China, indicated that the Japanese Government had no responsibility for the trouble, but rather the Japanese Army.

"PEACE HATH HER SACRIFICES"**—But Not So Great as War!**

From Our Own Correspondent

PEACE cannot be won without some sacrifices, but they will be mild compared with those expected of the country's youth in time of war," said James Hudson at a meeting arranged by the Ilford and District group of the Peace Pledge Union last week.

In his speech Mr. Hudson dealt decisively with the Government's plans for defending the country against enemy attacks.

"My conversion to pacifism came about after I had seen for myself the unspeakable horror and futility of war," said Dr. Sheppard, adding that whenever he saw a military uniform he also saw again the awful carnage of 1914.

It was mentioned that the action of the local authorities in banning the use of the Town Hall would be contested at an early date.

SOCIAL CREDIT

The first of a series of discussions on "Why we are pacifists," arranged by the Tonbridge group of the P.P.U., will be opened by Mr. E. Barge on March 3 at Masonic Hall, Tonbridge.

The claim of the supporters of Social Credit that it can abolish poverty and war is being considered by the Nottingham group in the very near future.

Preliminary consideration is to be given to the subject by the study group and later one of the leaders from Social Credit headquarters is to be invited to put his case at a group meeting.

LET'S END IT THEN!

From Our Own Correspondent

"Modern imperialism does not pay," said Dr. F. B. Julian at Liverpool last week.

It paid individuals, profiteers, and vested interests, and the ordinary people had to find the money for their exploitations, he continued.

One of the most prosperous countries in Europe, Denmark, had no colonies today.

The true Christian pacifist position was not only the most logical but it was a dynamic.

F.O.R. IN NORTH LONDON

The annual meeting, which is described as "of the utmost importance to the life of the Fellowship of Reconciliation in North London," of the North London Area Council of the F.O.R. will be held at Crouch Hill Presbyterian Church Hall on March 6.

A public meeting, at which the Rev. Alan Balding will speak on "The Christian pacifist faces the challenge of the present situation," will precede the business meeting. At the latter meeting full opportunity will be afforded for members to bring forward points and ventilate opinions, and a social will follow.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS IN BRIEF**ABYSSINIA**

Marshal Graziani, Viceroy of Abyssinia, was slightly wounded at Addis Ababa on February 10, when bombs were thrown during a public function.

The police have taken 2,000 natives into custody.

AUSTRIA

Baron von Neurath, the German Foreign Minister, arrived in Vienna on February 22 and received a warm welcome. Austrian Nazis demonstrated enthusiastically and later clashed with supporters of the Fatherland Front.

Forthcoming discussions are likely to be mainly concerned with the monarchist issue. Germany is anxious to prevent a Hapsburg restoration.

CANADA

The Canadian parliamentary debate on the £7,000,000 defence appropriation ended on February 19. The Government programme was subsequently endorsed by a large majority, an ex-Service man's amendment, disapproving of increased arms expenditure in contrast to lack of provision for social services, meeting with little support.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Improved relations between the Czechoslovak people and the German

(Continued from page 1, column 2)

PARLIAMENT

which must govern the scale of armaments and therefore was a "tragic farce," was made by Mr. Pethick-Lawrence.

He declared that an internal loan was pure inflation and must put up prices.

Sir Archibald Sinclair accused Mr. Chamberlain of repudiating allegiance to the League system.

When the debate was resumed on the following day Mr. Alexander asserted that but for the folly of the Government they could have abolished the use of the bombing plane.

A declaration that the proposals contemplated a state of war and that the Government had no peace policy was made by Mr. Attlee, who added that the Government's policy made war inevitable.

Replying to Mr. Attlee's assertion that he had betrayed democracy, Mr. Baldwin said that he believed that the great expansion in the air was being made with the consent of the whole country.

He made the usual statement that the country could not play its part in securing peace in the world unless our forces were brought up to the necessary standard. That, and that alone, was what the expenditure stood for.

The division resulted in a majority for the Government of 329 to 145.

MANDATES

On a motion in the Lords urging the Government to consult with the Dominions and other colonial Powers with a view to applying the mandate system to British and other colonies, Lord Noel Buxton said that we were heading for war if we kept our colonies in strict preserve.

Replying for the Government, Lord Plymouth declared that a more fruitful line of approach was to be sought in the forthcoming deliberations of the Committee on Raw Materials.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

minority are likely to result from an agreement reported from Prague on February 19.

DANZIG

According to a report of February 20 satisfaction was felt in Berlin at the appointment of the Swiss historian Professor Carl Burckhardt as League High Commissioner in Danzig.

The Professor is said to be sympathetic with the Nazi régime in Germany.

EGYPT

Britain has invited Egypt to apply for membership of the League of Nations. The Swiss, Greek and Iraqi governments have already expressed their support for the application.

GERMANY

Ex-Service men from 14 nations met Herr Hitler on February 17. The Führer declared that they were the fit and proper persons to stand for the cause of peace. He had a particularly cordial talk with the Czechoslovak representative.

On the same date in Warsaw the further improvement of German-Polish relations was discussed by General Göring and the Inspector-General of the Polish Forces.

INDIA

That Congress would accept office in those Provinces where it had majorities was forecast in a Delhi report of February 19.

JAPAN

The Army, which caused the fall of the last government, is annoyed at criticism levelled against it in the Diet and has threatened strong action, according to a Tokio report of February 16.

The policy of the Navy was stability in East Asia in accordance with the principle of "non-menace and non-aggression." Equal strength with the world's biggest naval power was not desired.

A lowering of the height standards for conscripts was announced on February 17. This would increase the number available for active service.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS

As was forecast in PEACE NEWS, Germany will not send delegates to the Raw Material Conference arranged for March 8, according to a report from Geneva of February 22.

POLAND

A call to subordinate personal and material considerations to the welfare of Poland was broadcast by Colonel Koc on February 21.

He declared the adherence of Poland to a system of private property, involving the rejection of communism, and the need for concentrating the will of the nation on national defence.

U.S.A.

A thirty-hour week, increased wages and two weeks' holiday with pay were among the demands put forward by American miners at a conference between owners and workers which began on February 17.

The owners' counter-proposals included an increase of working hours to 40 and a 15 percent reduction in wages.

That the vogue of the "sit-down" strike was spreading over the United States was reported from New York on February 21. Labour leaders recognized in it a new and potent weapon against employers.

Please send FULL Particulars

of your meetings, as follows : Date. Time. Place (in full). Particulars (speaker(s) and subject). Organizers (including address).

Owing to heavy pressure on space, only public meetings or meetings with *special* speakers (i.e. NOT regular, or branch meetings, unless addressed by an important public speaker) can be inserted in the "Diary of the Week."

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CAMPS

PACIFISTS — MEET OTHER PACIFISTS at the pacifist Easter camp. Full particulars from J.A.C., 115 Brecknock Road, London, N.19. Gulliver 2918.

DRAMATIC

CAN YOU ACT? Use your talent for peace by joining the International Pax Players Association. Non-sectarian, non-political. Particulars from Mrs. E. Eunice Horner, 48 Arlington Street, London, N.1.

YE KING'S STONE PRESS, 20a Lower Teddington Road, Kingston-on-Thames. If you are interested in peace read *MOLOCH* by Winifred Carter, 2s. 6d. (2s. 8d. by post).

"Most affecting. It depicts the agony of war in the home and in the heart of a mother." *Daily Sketch*.

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PHOTOGRAPHY

NINE MORE MEMBERS wanted for progressive postal portfolio club; keen amateurs warmly welcomed: helpful criticisms and monthly exchange of prints. Fullest details by return. Box No. D.20, c/o PEACE NEWS, 59 Waterfall Road, London, N.11.

MEETINGS

DR. GRAHAM HOWE will lecture in Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn, on Mondays, March 1 and 8, at 8 p.m. The subjects: Guilt and Wisdom.

Tickets, to be obtained by post from 99 Clare Court, Judd Street, W.C.1, ordered by phoning Regent 2843, or bought at the door: 2s. 6d. each, 9s. the course; 1s. 6d. each, 5s. the course; 1s. each, 3s. the course; some free.

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Peace News

February 27, 1937

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DIARY OF THE WEEK

Tomorrow. 3 p.m. Hyde Park, London, Mrs. Eleanor Barton, Vera Brittain, Brig.-Gen. F. P. Crozier, George Lansbury, Bertrand Russell, Laurence Housman, Canon Morris, Captain Mumford, Reginald Sorensen on "£1,500,000,000 for rearmament means war"; P.P.U.

Mon. 6.15 p.m. London School of Economics, Houghton Street, Aldwych, London, W.C.2; Prof. C. A. W. Manning on "The international problem of peaceful change—some suggested reforms." 6.15 p.m. Essex Hall, London, W.C.1; Herman Finer on "The economic problem and world peace. 4. Italy"; tickets 1s. from National Peace Council, 39 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1. 8 p.m. Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn; Dr. Graham Howe on "Guilt"; tickets from 99 Clare Court, Judd Street, London, W.C.1. 8 p.m. St. Mary's Schoolrooms, Bedford; meeting to consider organization and arrangement of future activities; P.P.U. 8 p.m. Noel Park School, Wood Green; film presentation, "Defense of Madrid." 8.15 p.m. Sherwood School, Burgh Heath Road, Epsom; Rev. C. G. Holland, on "What about that righteous war?" P.P.U.

Tues. 7.30 p.m. Friends House, Alton; public meeting, David Spreckley on "Constructive Pacifism"; P.P.U. 7.30 p.m. Masonic Hall, Oswestry; Canon Stuart Morris and Rev. Tom Nefyn Williams on "An alternative to rearmament"; P.P.U.

Wed. 7.30 p.m. Congregational Church, Coton Road (opposite Council House), Nuneaton; Richard C. Wood on "The work of the Fellowship of Reconciliation since 1914"; P.P.U. 8 p.m. Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1; Rose Macaulay at meeting of P.P.U. London, W.C.1 group.

Thurs. 1 to 1.40 p.m. St. Mary Woolnoth, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3; Lord Cecil of Chelwood on "What can we do now for peace?" 8 p.m. Congregational Church Hall, Purley; Public meeting to be addressed by Canon H. R. L. Sheppard and Captain Philip S. Mumford on "The way to peace." 8 p.m. Friends' Meeting House, Hillgate, Stockport; "What young Friends and others had to undergo 20 years ago." 8 p.m. Heath Park School, Heath Park Road, Romford; Thomas Southall will speak at public meeting; P.P.U.

Fri. 7.30 p.m. Congregational Church, Coton Road (opposite Council House), Nuneaton; Richard C. Wood on "The work of the Fellowship of Reconciliation since 1914"; P.P.U. 8 p.m. Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1; Rose Macaulay at meeting of P.P.U. London, W.C.1 group.

Sat. 3.15 p.m. Presbyterian Church Hall, Crouch Hill; Rev. Alan Balding on "The Christian Pacifist faces the challenge of the present situation"; F.O.R. 6 p.m. Presbyterian Church Hall, Crouch Hill; annual business meeting of North London F.O.R.

STILL MORE NEW GROUPS

From Our Own Correspondents

A BLACKBURN group of the Peace Pledge Union came into being at a meeting of signatories held in the Friends' Meeting House, King Street, last week, when it was decided to form teams for discussion and propagation of the pacifist cause.

It is hoped to cooperate with the Christian pacifist group which is already established in the town. A group of the P.P.U. has also been formed in Balham and Tooting. Readers desirous of further information should apply to the joint secretaries at 69 Streathbourne Road, Balham, S.W.17.

A recent general meeting of signatories called by the organizer for the Hastings district resulted in five small but enthusiastic "working groups" being formed—in addition to the two groups already in existence.

A village propaganda meeting has been arranged for Monday week at Mountfield Hall, near Robertsbridge, and on the following day Dr. Sheppard, Dr. Herbert Gray, and James Hudson will be the speakers at a great peace rally in the White Rock Pavilion.

The secretary of the Finchley group, Mrs. M. Kennard, 37 Horsham Avenue, N.12, will be pleased to give any further information to interested friends.

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